

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 CARACA 07720 182310Z  
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15  
ICA-11 HA-05 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 AGRE-00 DOE-15  
SOE-02 FRB-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 OPIC-03 STR-07 /126 W  
-----046846 200158Z /70

R 181913Z AUG 78  
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3445  
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA  
AMEMBASSY MEXICO  
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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E.O. 11652: NA  
TAGS: ELBA IS VE  
SUBJECT: VISITING ISRAELI HISTADRUT OFFICIAL MESHEL IS GIVEN  
HIGH-LEVEL VENEZUELAN ATTENTION

1. YERUJAM MESHEL, GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE ISRAELI TRADE  
UNION FEDERATION HISTADRUT, RECEIVED HIGH LEVEL VENEZUELAN  
ATTENTION DURING HIS AUGUST 13-17 VISIT TO CARACAS. HIS  
WESTERN HEMISPHERE ITINERARY INCLUDED COSTA RICA AND MEXICO,  
AND HE IS TRAVELLING FROM CARACAS TO BOGOTA AND TO WASHINGTON  
WHERE HE HOPES TO MEET AFL-CIO PRESIDENT MEANY. IN  
VENEZUELA HE MET SEPARATELY WITH PRESIDENT CARLOS ANDRES PEREZ;  
PRESIDENT OF THE CONGRESS, GONZALO BARRIOS; PRESIDENT  
OF THE (LOWER) HOUSE OF DEPTIES, OSWALDO ALVAREZ PAZ; MINISTER  
OF LABOR JOSE MANZO GONZALEZ AND WITH THE TOP LEADERSHIP OF  
THE VENEZUELA CONFEDERATION OF WORKERS (CTV).  
A MAJOR PORTION OF HIS TIME IN VENEZUELA WAS PSENT ON THE  
STANDARD VIP SIGHTSEEING VISIT TO THE COUNTRY'S MAJOR  
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PAGE 02 CARACA 07720 182310Z

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER, CIUDAD GUAYANA, AND TO THE  
NEARBY GURI DAM NOW IN THE SECOND STAGE OF CONSTRUCTION.

2. MESHEL TOLD THE EMBASSY LABOR ATTACHE THAT HE CONSIDERED HIS  
VISIT SUCCESSFUL AND THAT HE HOPED ISRAEL COULD EXPAND ITS PROGRAM  
OF OBSERVATION TOURS BY VENEZUELAN TRADE UNIONISTS  
AND AGRICULTURISTS TO ISRAELI AGRICULTURAL PRODUCER AND CONSUMER

COOPERATIVES. CURRENTLY, FIVE VENEZUELANS ARE IN ISRAEL UNDER THIS PROGRAM. MORDECHAI BARKAI, WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT OF THE ISRAELI DAILY, DAVAR, AND MORDECHAI CHAZON, HISTRADRUT'S LATIN AMERICAN REPRESENTATIVE BASED IN MEXICO, ARE ACCOMPANYING MESHEL ON HIS TOUR. DAVAR TOLD THE LABOR ATTACHE THAT ISRAEL WAS PLEASED BY THE HELPFUL POSITION OF THE VENEZUELAN DELEGATION AT THE JUNE ILO CONFERENCE

IN ABSTAINING ON THE SYRIAN RESOLUTION AGAINST ISRAEL (GENEVA 9855). WHEN ASKED IF THERE REMAINED ANY ILL FEELING FROM THE LESS HELPFUL VENEZUELAN POSITION AT THE 1977 ILO CONFERENCE, HE REPLIED WITH A SMILE THAT "THAT WAS A LONG TIME AGO".

3. COMMENT: MESHEL WAS CORDIALLY WELCOMED BY THE VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT AND LABOR ESTABLISHMENT EVEN IF HE DID NOT RECEIVE THE BACK SLAPPING AND EMBRACES ACCORDED MORE FAMILIAR AMERICAN AND SOME EUROPEAN LABOR LEADERS. CERTAINLY THE VENEZUELANS MADE NO EFFORT TO HIDE EITHER FRIENDSHIP TOWARD THE ISRAELI LABOR MOVEMENT AS WITNESSED BY FAIR PRESS COVERAGE AND PUBLISHED PICTURES OF MEETINGS WITH PRESIDENT PEREZ, GONZALO BARRIOS AND CTV LEADERS. THE VENEZUELA HOSPITALITY SUGGESTED THAT THE VENEZUELANS SEE NO CONTRADICTION BETWEEN OPENLY WARM BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH ISRAELI INSTITUTIONS AND THEIR TENDENCY TO JOIN OPEC AND THE GROUP OF 77 IN MULTILATERAL FORUMS IN ACTIONS UNHELPFUL TO ISRAEL. UNDOUBTEDLY THE VENEZUELANS FOUND IT EASIER TO SHOW OPEN WARMTH TO AN OFFICIAL OF HISTADRUT, AN INSTITUTION WITH A PHILOSOPHY QUITE COMPATIBLE WITH THE RULING ACCION DEMOCRATICA LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 CARACA 07720 182310Z

PARTY'S SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC AND PRO-TRADE UNION BIAS THAN TO AN ISRAELI GOVERNMENT LEADER.  
CROWLEY

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** LABOR UNION OFFICIALS, VISITS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 18 aug 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780340-0638  
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**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** N/A  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** VISITING ISRAELI HISTADRUT OFFICIAL MESHEL IS GIVEN HIGH-LEVEL VENEZUELAN ATTENTION  
**TAGS:** ELAB, OTRA, IS, VE, (MESHEL, YERUJAM)  
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**Review Markings:**  
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